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Project's plea for funding



Youth worker Justin Donovan and Clare Norton outside the new Banbury Young Homeless Project building

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A MAJOR appeal has been launched to safeguard a service that helps keep young people off the streets of Banbury.

The mediation service at BYHP will be able to help less than half the people it currently supports if £30,000 is not found.

Just £4,500 has been raised so far and managers are calling on the public to donate and hold fundraising events.

The service, which helps 50 people a year, is based at Chandos Close and helps to avoid parents throwing their children out of home by mediating to find a way forward.

It has funding for the 12 months from April to pay for staff but needs to raise another £30,000 by the end of January to maintain the same level of service.

Chief executive officer Clare Norton said a cut to the service would be devastating for young people.

She said: "We get a good outcome in 90 per cent of cases."

Mrs Norton said: "It stops young people becoming homeless in the first place."

"Young people grow up, they want to be more independent and express themselves in ways parents are not keen on."

Domestic abuse, a parent

By Oliver Evans

getting a new partner, or mental health problems and substance abuse among parents are common problems, she said.

David (not his real name) went to BYHP for help five years ago following tensions at home. As he worked unsocial hours, he wanted more independence.

The 22-year-old, who now has his own flat, said: "I wouldn't be talking to my parents without BYHP. I would probably have lost my job as well."

"Mediation helped us to become a family again."

Cherwell District Council also works to help people stay in their present home or find alternative accommodation.

Latest figures show there were 20 people in the Cherwell district classed as homeless and in priority need from July to September, up from 17 in the same period in 2006.

Those classed as priority need include parents with children, OAPs, the disabled and pregnant women.



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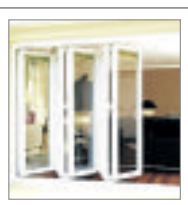
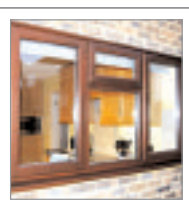
Printed and published by Newsquest Oxfordshire, from its offices at Newspaper House, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ, Tel: 01865 425362. Newspaper Sales Department 01865 425282. Direct Delivery 0800 028 4592.



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Holidays joy of transplant girl

Daughter tells how mum's gift of a kidney has changed her life

YOUNG mum Jasmine Parker spent most of last Christmas wired up to a kidney dialysis machine.

But this year she was celebrating her "best Christmas ever", after her own mum gave her the gift of a new life.

Miss Parker, 21, received a kidney from her mother, Diane Wincott, 47, in June this year – and says it has transformed her life.

She said: "We went into hospital together, had the op and were amazed by how quickly we recovered after the operation."

"Mum was out of hospital after four days and I was up and about the next day and out of hospital for good six days later."

"Mum was then off work for a couple of months, but has really bounced back. I felt a change inside me immediately. I no longer felt sick and unwell, which I had felt constantly for months. I felt normal at last."

The kidney from her mother was Miss Parker's second transplant.

She discovered her kidneys were failing five

By Debbie Waite

years ago, during a routine pregnancy scan for her son, Leo, now five.

She had a kidney transplant weeks before her 18th birthday, but just seven months later there were complications and the organ showed signs of rejection.

Then, in January this year, she suffered renal failure for a second time, again following pregnancy – and her daughter, Lexi, now 11 months, was born 13 weeks prematurely weighing just two pounds and six ounces.

With no other choice, she returned to dialysis, three times a week at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford – until her mum stepped forward.

Miss Parker, from Fairway, Banbury, continued: "It feels a little strange knowing my mum's kidney is inside me, but it is also amazing because my mum gave me the best present ever – a life, which no longer means being wired up to a machine three times a week."



Jasmine Parker received a kidney from her mother, Diane Wincott, in June and they are now enjoying their first Christmas without having to be wired up to a dialysis machine

OX49389

"The change to my life has been massive. I can now spend time with my children. We can go out and have fun and I can be just like any other mum."

"And it's definitely made mum and I closer. We see a lot of each other now and we don't argue at all anymore!"

Mother-of-four Mrs Wincott, 47, from Bretch

Hill, said: "Everyone was amazed at what I did, but any of my family and friends would have done the same thing for Jasmine. She deserves to live her life, just like anyone else, not hooked up to a dialysis machine three times a week."

She added: "Having just the one kidney hasn't made much difference to

me. I do get tired more easily, but the change in Jasmine is incredible; She is a totally different person now with loads of energy and she looks amazing."

"I have no regrets about the op. It was the best thing I have ever done and I am thrilled to see Jasmine happy, and the kids with their mother, just like it should be."

News in brief

A MOOTED redevelopment of The Mill Arts Centre, to include the possible relocation of the town's library, is again set to remain on hold. Oxfordshire County Council has pledged £5.8m towards a plan to extend the canal-side arts centre to include the library, currently in Marlborough Road. In 2009, Cherwell District Council, which has put aside £2m for building costs, said the development could be open by 2012. But it was put on hold because of the financial crisis and is set to stay on ice during the 2012/13 financial year, for which county budgets are currently being devised. Nicholas Turner, Mill management committee chairman and Conservative county council member for Banbury Hardwick, said: "I'm not surprised. But it is still there for the future. Hopefully, when things get better, it will come forward."

A PLAN has been submitted for up to 75 homes for land at Waters Lane in Middleton Cheney. The planning application to South Northamptonshire Council is a "screening option" to gauge the community's and council's view of the proposal.

THE county's ambulance service has been recognised for having the best response times in England. South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust won the Ambulance Trust of the Year award at the 2011 Health Business Awards ceremony. Latest figures show the trust got to 72.5 per cent of the most serious calls in eight minutes against a national target of 75 per cent.

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Go-ahead for incinerator

WORK on Oxfordshire's first incinerator at Ardley is expected to start next year after it was announced building firm Clugston Construction had won the contract.

The firm, which has offices in Leeds, Scunthorpe and Hebburn, Tyne and Wear, said the £100m Oxfordshire scheme would be its third energy-from-waste project.

The firm could not say how many jobs would be created and when building

work would start. Managing director Steve Radcliffe said: "We are delighted with the approval to commence site activities, which means we look forward to starting construction works on another exciting EfW project with our partner CNIM."

The incinerator has been a controversial issue with villagers setting up pressure group Ardley Against Incinerator to fight it. But its two-year battle to stop the plant being built failed.

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Help scheme has 'changed my life'

A HELP scheme for elderly people in their own homes has proved life-changing in its first year. The My Life My Way project, run by the Age UK Oxfordshire charity, started in February and offers people assistance with simple day-to-day activities.

More than 20 people have taken up the offer for weekly home visits in North Oxfordshire.

Brenda Lickorish, 83, from Bloxham, said her support worker, Paula Donaldson, had "changed her life" in the last eight months.

Age UK charges £15 an hour for the service, with all the money going back into keeping the service going for others.

Anyone interested in joining the scheme can contact Age UK on 01295 278040 or email tinaturvey@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk



Fraudster who tars Romania

A JUDGE told an Eastern European fraudster his crimes gave "all people from Romania a bad name".

Constantin Procopciuc used a device known as a "Lebanese loop" to steal money from cash machines in Banbury and Chipping Norton.

At Oxford Crown Court last week Recorder John Hardy said the 20-year-old defendant "came here and conducted himself in such a way as to give his country and all persons coming from it a thoroughly bad name, and a reputation which in general terms they do not deserve".

Prosecutor Tony McGeorge said Procopciuc, of Hilton Road, Banbury, operated with a 15-year-old accomplice and the pair were caught by off-duty policeman PC John Thirlaway.

The officer spotted the Lebanese loop on a cashpoint in Horse Fair, Banbury, on November 9, and alerted CCTV operators to the presence of

By Thom Airs

Procopciuc and the teenage boy. The duo were arrested shortly afterwards.

The Lebanese loop sticks to legitimately withdrawn cash and, as the account holder goes to register a complaint that their cash has not been dispensed, the fraudsters appear and remove the loop with the money attached.

Procopciuc's fingerprints also linked him to another device found in Chipping Norton on October 1.

He admitted two counts of possessing an article for use in fraud and asked for five other similar offences from the Banbury area to be taken into consideration.

Donal Lawler, defending, said his client, who does not speak English, came to Britain four years ago and began offending in the summer after moving to

Banbury from London.

He has previous convictions for thefts and failing to comply with community orders.

Jailing Procopciuc for eight months, Recorder Hardy said: "During 2011 you have shown a prolific appetite for many offences of dishonesty.

"They have a cumulative nuisance value and they have an effect on the reputation of your compatriots.

"They give all people from Romania a bad name. It's not only you whose reputation is sullied by this activity but others who are making a good life for themselves here."

Recorder Hardy continued: "When you have completed your sentence I recommend as strongly as I'm able to that you be deported back to your country of origin."

The 15-year-old accomplice, who cannot be named, was given a nine-month referral order at an earlier hearing.

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Supporters gather for hunt meet

HOUNDS and huntsmen jumped fences and galloped through fields on Boxing Day to continue a centuries-old tradition.

Chipping Norton's Boxing Day hunt has been held every year since 1835.

The event, organised by the Heythrop Hunt, saw more than 6,000 people turning out to see off more than 80 riders.

Senior joint master of the hunt Richard Sumner said: "Hunting is part of the countryside tradition and we are trying to keep it going."

"It is the most wonderful way of seeing the countryside and meeting people."

The hunt did not follow the scent of live foxes, instead following scent trails that had been laid earlier in the day.

The Labour Government made hunting wild animals using dogs illegal in 2005.

Mr Sumner said: "They should repeal the Act because it is unworkable law."

"There needs to be some sort of fox control and other methods are far more cruel."

Agriculture Minister Jim Paine echoed the sentiment on Sunday, saying the Act "simply does not work".

Trekkers aim for a pinnacle

TWO financial advisers will face the danger of altitude sickness when they take on a charity challenge to climb Mount Everest.

Robert Briggs, 57, and Gary Bricknell, 45, are to take on the trek for a good causes fund administered

By Oliver Evans

by St James's Place, a wealth management firm.

They are partners in the firm and have paid for the journey in a group bid to raise £250,000, which the company will then double.

Each has been tasked with raising at least £12,500.

More than 25 partners will take part in the 17-day excursion in April, taking in more than 120 miles and heights of up to 18,500ft.

Brightwell-Cum-Sotwell resident Mr Briggs said he had undertaken the best possible training by climbing Africa's 19,240ft Mount Kilimanjaro in 2009.

He said: "I am very excited about it. I keep myself pretty fit, so the challenge is more about raising the sponsorship money."

The keen triathlete said his routine of gym and cycle work-outs three to four times a week should put him in good stead for the climb.

But he said: "There is no guarantee that will safeguard



Robert Briggs at summit of Mount Kilimanjaro in 2009

against altitude sickness."

Mr Bricknell, of Overthorpe, said: "The altitude sickness is scary. It can get anybody, even if you are super fit."

Group training in the Lake District every six weeks and cardio work in the gym had boosted his fitness, he said.

He said: "I think it will be fun. Everybody has different

personalities. It is a good team."

But he said: "I have never done

anything like this before. I am not a natural walker or trekker."

"Not having a shower for 17 days will be difficult too!"

The St James's Place Foundation, a charitable organisation linked to the firm, will donate the cash to causes that help children with special needs and hospices.

To sponsor Mr Briggs, visit justgiving.com/Robert-Briggs18200 and Mr Bricknell at justgiving.com/gbverrestbasecamp



Gary Bricknell, in training



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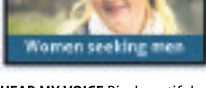
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GET TOGETHER Honest, genuine Poole female, 42, slim build, blonde hair, green eyes, GSOH, enjoys eating out, beach walks, cinema, nice bottle of wine and family life, seeking a loving and caring man for LTR.. Box **852108** £

WE'LL FIND EACH OTHER Attractive lady, 44, 5'8", slim, blue-eyed Bournemouth woman, 34, searching for a happy, positive man, up to 45, who likes to have a laugh.. Box **112147** £

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I GOT YOU BABE Easygoing Dorset female, 44, enjoys tennis, soul music, live concerts and more, searching for a genuine man, with GSOH, to go out with, and share a lasting relationship.. Box **102700** £

STICK TO ME Smiley girl, 46, blonde, likes eating out, cooking, scuba diving, holidays, playing badminton & animals, seeks friendly, chatty, sociable, N/S gent.. Box **105903** £

HAPPY HEART Thoughtful female, 53, 5", blonde hair, medium build and attractive. Sharing and caring, likes most things in life seeks like minded male.. Box **100230** £

AFFECTION CONNECTION Bubbly, warm hearted female, blonde, brown eyes, likes dancing, eating in & out, swimming, seeks that special man, for a serious relationship. Bournemouth.. Box **100928** £

LEARNING IN LOVE Fun loving, caring lady, 54, 5'7", gosh, from Bournemouth, seeks gent 45-55 who enjoys evenings in & out, cooking & music.. Box **111656** £

KNIGHT TO REMEMBER Romantic female, 54, attractive, caring, genuine, enjoys socialising, nice pubs and restaurants, searching for her soul mate for long term relationship. Bournemouth.. Box **111361** £

LET'S CHAT Easygoing Bournemouth woman, 55, searching for a non-smoking, healthy man, who enjoys fitness, walks and cinema, for friendship and company.. Box **111603** £

LADY IN WAITING Bubbly female, 54, GSOH, tactile and affectionate, enjoys almost everything in life and looking to meet a special gent for a loving relationship.. Box **867192** £

GOOD TIMES COMING Green eyed blonde, 45, slim and attractive, wicked SOH, WLTm somebody to have great times with. Verwood.. Box **464929** £

COAST & COUNTRY Lovely, sincere Poole female, 47, loves coastal walks, theatre, dining out and culture, seeking an interesting easygoing male, 48-54 to enjoy quality time together.. Box **102201** £

IT WOULD BE NICE Friendly, bubbly, active female, 49, grown up children, loves sports, cycling, camping, walking, gardens, music, seeks nice male, for LTR.. Box **106891** £

MAYBE SOME ROMANCE Honest, caring female, 51, 5'2", fair hair, likes cosy nights in, cinema, seeks loving, kind man, 48-56 to share life together.. Box **105487** £

RIGHT FOR YOU Attractive, slim, active Dorset girl, 51, blonde, searching for a man, with a positive outlook, to share trips, adventures and life in general.. Box **113251** £

REAL AND READY Fit, active Wimborne woman, 51, with positive outlook, enjoys travel, walks, tennis and family life, searching for a soul mate, to live on life.. Box **113410** £

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LADY IN WAITING Bubbly female, 54, GSOH, tactile and affectionate, enjoys almost everything in life and looking to meet a special gent for a loving relationship.. Box **867192** £

BY MY SIDE Slim, fit, considerate Dorset lady, 50s, 5'3", with a zest for life, loves dance, walks, music and singing, searching for an active chap, 5'9"+, N/S, who loves life and wants to explore happiness.. Box **112814** £

SPECIAL TO EACH OTHER Bubbly lady, 57, blonde eyes, medium build, N/S, likes country pubs, eating out, good conversation, seeks easygoing chap, 59-69.. Box **105319** £

PEDAL POWERS Youthful 57 yr old lady, enjoys walking, walks, country pubs and cycling, searching for a man, who still has a sense of fun. Dorset/Bournemouth.. Box **108254** £

BEING TOGETHER Young at heart, sincere Wimborne female, 57, loves places of interest, travelling, theatre, walking and cycling, would like to meet a man to enjoy life with.. Box **108270** £

PERFECT MOMENTS Young at heart lady, 57, enjoys restaurant, films, bowling, theatre, seeks N/S chap, for companionship. Bournemouth.. Box **103765** £

I'M STILL SEARCHING Vivacious, feminine lady, 57, enjoys music, meals out, theatre, sea front, seeks nice gent, to share walks, talks & more. Ferndown.. Box **102151** £

THE NATURAL CHOICE Dorset girl, 57, believes we are all entitled to happiness, sharing both the good & sometimes the not so good things in life, looking for a man, 55-60, 5'8"+, to share my love of.. Box **110280** £

LIFE AND LAUGHTER Widowed lady, 58, 5'5", slim build, N/S, from Poole, likes days out, theatre, walks, looking for companionship and more.. Box **110040** £

ONE OF THE GOOD ONES Easygoing, sociable, sporty female, 58, slim build, gosh, seeks tall, slim, genuine, sporty guy, 56-61 to bring my love back to life. Wimborne.. Box **103833** £

NICE DAYS AHEAD Honest, quietly spoken lady, 58, no ties, enjoys travel, walks, theatre, home life, seeks honest man, 50-69 to settle down with. Bournemouth.. Box **104802** £

SIMPLY DIVINE Well-travelled, attractive Hampshire lady, 60, enjoys music, yoga, walks and travel, searching for an active gent, to share interests and friendship.. Box **103698** £

I CAN MAKE YOU SMILE Happy, outgoing, self-employed Wimborne female, 61, enjoys playing tennis, swimming, walking, seeks similar guy to share common interests together.. Box **112262** £

HOPEFULLY YOURS Sincere Dorset lady, 62, widow, large build, searching for a trustworthy, solvent, considerate man, to share interests and friendship.. Box **113241** £

LET THE FUTURE UNFOLD Petite, Bournemouth lady, 63, likes country drives, places of interest, gardening, music, dining out, wltm tallish, slim, intelligent, smart gent with gosh essential.. Box **110029** £

PROMISE YOU Petite female, 63, blond, slim, likes dancing, socialising, football, gardening, seeks friendly, fun chap, for good times and more. Christchurch.. Box **100786** £

I'LL MAKE YOU SMILE Dippy widow, 62, loves to laugh, 5'6", slim/medium build, hazel eyes, likes meals out, looking for a well-presented guy, 5'17+, who loves life.. Box **463418** £

LET THE SUN SHINE Mature, genuine, intelligent Bournemouth lady, 64, searching for a like-minded man, who enjoys good conversation, restaurants, reading, walks and more.. Box **109849** £

MORE THAN EVER Chatty Wareham widow, 66, sociable and attractive, loves dogs, foreign travel and good conversation, seeking a similar kind, caring & fun man, for company, days out and maybe more.. Box **112739** £

LIVELY AND LOVELY Lively Poole lady, 66, loves the outdoors, reading, watching tv, travelling, wine and dining, would like to meet a similar chap to enjoy good company together.. Box **117129** £

COUNTRY COMPANION Cuddly lady, 69, N/S, GSOH, enjoys cinema, theatre, sports and country houses. Wltm gent for fun and companionship. Near Weymouth.. Box **100272** £

YOURS FAITHFULLY Lovely, sincere, widowed lady, 70, 5'3", fair hair, medium build, many interest, seeks sincere, genuine gent, for a lasting relationship. Poole.. Box **102071** £

SO MUCH LOVE TO GIVE Widow lady, 73, likes laughter, romantic evening, home life, sowing, animals, holidays, seeks understanding, for companionship. Bournemouth.. Box **105684** £

MATCH FOR ME Slim, active Wimborne lady, 75, N/S, with a youthful outlook, enjoys travel, fun, music and more, searching for a male companion, to share days out, company and romance.. Box **111479** £

GOOD TIMES TOGETHER Confident lady, 76, no ties, likes walking, reading, crosswords, dining in & out, dancing, seeking a man, for companionship. Poole.. Box **105544** £

MAKE THE DIFFERENCE Very fit and outgoing Christchurch male, 28, average build, seeking an slightly older woman for good company laughter and much more.. Box **116021** £

TAKING IT SLOW Blue-eyed Bournemouth male, 31, 5'4", into clubs, swimming and more, searching for a quiet and fun woman.. Box **111168** £

ANYONE INTERESTING? Friendly Poole male, 33, would love to meet a woman who is outgoing and ready to settle down into a lasting relationship.. Box **115823** £

TALL ORDER? Dark-eyed Poole male, 33, 5'7", tattooed, searching for a nice, interesting girl, for plenty of fun times.. Box **115828** £

A SMILE GOES A LONG WAY Caring, good looking Bournemouth male, 37, 5'5", slim build, enjoys restaurants, pubs, clubs, days out, would like to meet a female, 24-48 for friendship possible relationship.. Box **114798** £

TAKE A CHANCE Outgoing guy, 38, 6'2", dark hair, into most things from going out, nights in, looking for someone to share times with.. Box **108719** £

IN YOUR COMPANY Friendly male, 39, 5'9", lives in Poole, likes the beach, cinema, bowling, seeks eating out, dog walking, wltm female, for a lasting relationship.. Box **106770** £

LEARNING CURVES! Slim, blue-eyed male, 42, 5'11", Dorchester based, varied interests, own home/car, searching for an articulate, humorous, curvy woman, for company.. Box **102524** £

TAKE YOUR PICK Warm, kind, caring Poole male, 42, 5'10", gentle, likes nature, countryside, beech, walks and sport, wants someone with same interests, warm and caring, for friendship and who knows.. Box **116693** £

LONGING TO MEET YOU Nice, easygoing male, 42, 6'3", blue eyes, likes restaurants, cinema, walks, seeks loving female, 35-45 for good company & more. Bournemouth.. Box **101844** £

RED, RED WINE Handsome gent, 43, 6'2", medium build. Own business, enjoys pubs, restaurants & gym, WLTm attractive, easy going & positive lady of similar age. Poole.. Box **100598** £

SOUL LOVER Separated Weymouth male, 43, caring & affectionate, seeking an honest woman for fun, laughter cuddles and possible long term relationship.. Box **115539** £

FUN, LAUGHS, ROMANCE, AND MAYBE MORE Single father, own home/business, attractive, average build, 44, enjoys walks, seaside, music, dancing, would like to meet a genuine, friendly, outgoing lady to share interests with. Poole/Dorset.. Box **112157** £

LOOKING FOR A FRESH START Affectionate, active chap, 44, own house/car, wltm funny, outgoing, successful female, 36-46 for long term relationship. Christchurch.. Box **104669** £

FEMALE COMPANY REQUIRED Handsome, kind guy (living in Poole) 6'4", slim/med build, easygoing, 45, enjoys beach walks, evenings in/out, seeking a nice lady, genuine, honest & fun, to have good times & more. Dorset.. Box **112612** £

SOMEONE LIKE YOU? Honest, hardworking, divorced male, 45, single dad, enjoys days out, country pubs, DIY, gardening, wltm attractive, easygoing female, for LTR. Poole.. Box **100753** £

TICKETS FOR TWO Film-loving man, 44, 5'9", looking for a lady, 40-55, for company- must be curvy and a non-smoker. Bournemouth.. Box **104148** £

LIGHT MY CANDLE Plastic, active male, 47, likes going out, nice meals in, family life, seeking understanding female, for good times and more. Christchurch.. Box **100376** £

HOPEFULLY SOMETHING MORE Trustworthy Poole male, 47, fair hair, blue eyes, N/S, own flat, loves eating in & out, walks along the beach and animals, seeking a sincere female, 30-46 to settle down with.. Box **104647** £

ASIAN PRINCESS WANTED Divorced Poole chap, 49, slim build with blue eyes, likes a simple uncomplicated life, seeking an asian lady friend, for friendship first then hopefully much more after.. Box **115138** £

TO ENJOY LIFE Hard-working Bournemouth male, 49, N/S, enjoys walks, cycling, films and music, seeking an attractive lady, 45-55, for possible relationship.. Box **101973** £

LOTS TO OFFER Young at heart Poole male, 49, 5'6", dark greying hair, hazel eyes, seeks slim female, 35-55 for a long term relationship.. Box **104414** £

OPEN TO NEW EXPERIENCES Easygoing, divorced male, 51, medium build, no ties, Bournemouth, likes nice days out, cinema, bowling, seeks similar lady, for LTR.. Box **107500** £

HAPPIER DAYS Genuine, laid back Christchurch male, 51, GSOH, likes nights in & out, looking for that special lady, to enjoy life together.. Box **113728** £

I COULD BE THE ONE Tactile male, 52, 5'9", dark hair, slim build, solvent with grown up children, Poole, likes sports, films, travelling, countryside, dining & dining, wltm female, 36-55.. Box **109039** £

SPARK OF LIFE Sincere, reliable male, 50, 5'6", likes pubs, music, driving, cycling, seeks bubbly, slim female for a lasting relationship. Poole.. Box **455633** £

OF A GENUINE DESCRIPTION Upfront male, 52, 5'7", medium build, likes animals, sports, places of interest, looking for a warm hearted female, 30-59 to enjoy good times together. Wareham.. Box **104214** £

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FINALLY YOU'VE FOUND ME Slim, active guy, 53, (living in Dorchester) GSOH, enjoys countryside, walks, playing/watching sports, romantic films, seeking similar lady to have fun, days out & who knows where it might lead.. Box **112162** £

BESIDE EACH OTHER Affectionate, active chap, 53, own business, likes cosy evenings in, home life, social clubs, keep fit, meals out, seeks N/S female, 45-55 to love & to cherish. Poole.. Box **104786** £

SIMILAR HEARTS? Easy going guy from Dorset, 53, with own landscaping firm, looking for a loving, n/s lady, to go out for drinks and meals and to know each other.. Box **110543** £

HOPEFULLY SOMETHING MORE Divorced male, 54, 5'11", medium build, own house/car, enjoys social drinks, live bands, cosy nights in, classic cars, seeks a decent lady, 40-55 for companionship. Broadstone.. Box **104229** £

ROCKY JOCKY Fair, blue-eyed man, 55, 5'9", good build, into music, seeks slim/med easygoing woman, to enjoy life with. Ringwood.. Box **100135** £

PASSIONATE MAN Intelligent, tall, N/S Ferndown male, 55, fair hair, seeks medium/large built lady 25-55, 5'5" for passion and love.. Box **113674** £

FREE HUGS AVAILABLE Happy, full of fun Poole guy, 56, good listener and cheerer-upper, wants to meet female, for coffee, chats, laughs, and to become a special friend when needed.. Box **110947** £

FINALLY FOUND YOU Easygoing male, 57, N/S, own car, likes swimming, animals, good foods, seeks a decent lady, for good times and more. Wareham.. Box **105553** £

LIGHT UP MY LIFE Divorced male, 57, kind, easygoing & generous, single dad, looking for a serious relationship. Bournemouth.. Box **105897** £

THE UPS AND DOWNS Outgoing, sociable Christchurch male, 50s, nice-looking, searching for a woman, for genuine friendship and possibly more.. Box **110500** £

DANCING IN THE MOONLIGHT Smart, happy go lucky, young at heart Poole chap, 68, likes travelling, meals in & out, meeting new people, would like to meet a considerate lady, for friendship and romance.. Box **104646** £

SPEND TIME TOGETHER Clean living, N/S 73yr old gent, needs rescuing from a broken marriage, wltm sincere lady, to settle down with. Poole.. Box **101861** £

ROAM TOGETHER Upfront, sociable, straight Dorchester female, 36, likes keeping fit, swimming, cinema, holidays, weekend away, driving, looking to meet more girlfriends for fun and laughter.. Box **115543** £

GET IN TOUCH Sociable female, 39, living in the Poole area. Likes the cinema, pubs and clubs, seeks similar female, 22-52, for fun times and social get togethers.. Box **100976** £

KNOCK KNOCK Straight Dorset lady, 64, looking for a friend, to go walking with. Likes the cinema, shows, eating out and travel.. Box **110139** £

PARADISE AWAY Ferndown male, 31, 5'11", dark hair, medium build, likes bowling, swimming, cinema, holidays, wltm outgoing male, 25-37 for fun and possibly more. Ferndown.. Box **100240** £

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Library gets its own guard as rural police move in

'Lost' Tolkien letters finally return home

By Sam
McGregor

LONG-lost letters, written by *Lord of the Rings* author JRR Tolkien, have been returned to their rightful owner and will get top-notch protection.

A former Oxford University student and professor, Tolkien was the guest of honour at the opening of Deddington Library in December 1956.

He wrote a letter accepting librarian Miss Stanley-Smith's invitation, including lunch, which he said: "was impossible for him to refuse".

A second letter followed the visit on December 19, where he thanked the librarian for her kindness, but said he was "depressed by his performance" which was "wretched and inadequate" and he did not deserve a fee.

In the letter, Tolkien also promised to give a volume of his next book to the library.

In 2000, the two letters were loaned to Oxfordshire County Council's museum service for exhibitions across the county, but were never returned.

The council, which runs the Museums Service, said it did not know why the letters were not returned at the time, but they had been stored "safely and in appropriate conditions".

Now, returned to the library, the letters will



John Ronald Reuel Tolkien, who was born in South Africa in 1892, and died in Oxford in 1973

get the ultimate protection after Deddington Police Station moved into the building, at the Old Court House, in Horsefair, as part of a cost-saving initiative for both organisations.

Current librarian Stella O'Neill said: "I'm thrilled to have copies of the letters on display in the library."

"I often have tourists here expecting to see some plaque of dedication or some information relating to Tolkien here, so it will be really lovely to have something to point them to in the future."

The museum service said it could not put a value on the letters.

Earlier this month, rural beat officers said farewell to their police station in Market Square,

which had been their HQ for the past decade.

Acting police inspector Bruce Riddell said officers were effectively moving back "home" as the police used to be based at courthouse, which also had cells.

He said: "It's a good example of the Big Society - organisations working together to save money and keep a facility."

The station is manned by volunteers and people can make inquiries or report crimes. It is also a base for rural officers, working in surrounding villages.

The move also marked the culmination of a campaign to save Deddington Library, which was threatened with closure as part of Oxfordshire County Council's cuts.

A manhole cover to beat thieves

THE latest weapon against metal thieves has been unveiled on an Oxfordshire street: the fibreglass manhole cover.

Oxfordshire's sole fibreglass manhole cover has been installed in Oxford Road, Banbury, outside the Horton Hospital.

Oxfordshire County Council is trialling the new lightweight cover in the hope it will stand the weight of traffic and provide an alternative to metal.

Over the last two months, metal thieves have stolen 30 gully gratings along the A40, and also hit the A420 on the Oxon-Gloucestershire boundary.

The new fibreglass alternatives have been made at Barrow-in-Furness based

company Structural Science Composites, and are also being tested by Transport for London and Cambridge Water.

They are currently more expensive than metal covers, but have a 15-year lifespan and have no value in the scrap market.

Metal manhole covers cost local authorities approximately £300 each, according to the Local Government Association.

Oxfordshire County Council spokesman Paul Smith said: "Given the trend for the traditional metal manhole covers in the UK to be a target for thieves, it is interesting to look at alternatives."

News in brief

A 67-year-old man, who was pulled from his burning car after it crashed on the A3400 is expected to remain in hospital until the New Year. The man, who was rescued by father and son Michael Kennedy Snr and Michael Kennedy Jnr, is in a stable condition in hospital where he is recovering from injuries to his legs and back after the accident on December 12.

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CAKE Sport

Minis rev up for the Monte Carlo

MINI rally cars will make a historic return to Monte Carlo despite concerns over the future of the world championship.

Banbury motorsport firm Prodrive said it missed a deadline to enter the January race because it was waiting for issues with the event's ownership to be resolved.

Yet it said it would be on the start line for the first race of the World Rally Championship 2012 season – Mini's first in the Monte Carlo since 1968.

There has been concern over the future of the championship after Convers Sports Initiatives, the parent company of promoter North One, went into receivership.

Its backer, Vladimir Antonov, also the owner of Portsmouth Football Club, is facing extradition from the UK over allegations of asset stripping of Lithuania's Snoras Bank.

The Mini team, now owned by BMW,

By Oliver Evans

famously won the five-day Monte Carlo rally in 1964, 1965 and 1967.

Prodrive spokesman Ben Sayer said the Mini WRC team was in discussions with the sport's governing body the Federation Internationale de L'Automobile.

While he would not comment on discussions, Mr Sayer said: "We are going to be in the championship next year and we will race in Monte Carlo."

The deadline for entries for the January 17 to 22 race expired at midnight on Monday, December 19.

He said: "We haven't applied for an entry yet because we are liaising with the FIA about the situation regarding the contract with the promoter for next year.

"It is difficult with a big organisation like BMW to commit to a series where you are not sure where you stand."

The FIA declined to comment but said a statement on the future of the championship would be made in the coming days.

The team returned to the championship this year with its Mini John Cooper Works WRC car and scored podium finishes in France and Germany.



ABOVE: The modern WRC Mini. Below: Flashback to the 1960s and the winning Mini of the day



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ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19
Distrust you now hold for a friend is forcing your close ones to choose sides. Try not to involve too many people in a battle which should really only be between the two of you. Mind you, you could always try talking to the face concerned, an amicable end is guaranteed to come my friend, if you do. Ring now for your weekly reading.

0906 585 4360

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20
New hobbies are set to turn into career paths next year for many of your sign. You're starting to realise that you have choices in life and that you deserve to have the right to choose for yourself. Decisions made on New Years Eve make for an interesting angle in love. Ring me now to hear which sign is keeping secrets from you.

0906 585 4361

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20
Your social nature is in for a shake up as you find yourself forced to choose between two sets of friends. Try not to be emotionally blackmailed into anything Gemini. Standing up for your beliefs can work wonders for the respect you're craving. Give me a ring now to find out why it's worth pursuing solo business paths in 2012.

0906 585 4362

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22
It's decision time in love but you may find it hard to know how you really feel due to the influence of friends and family. You are the one who will have to live with the person you choose, so you are the one who must make the final choice. New Year's events give you all the evidence you need, so pay attention. Ring now for courage.

0906 585 4363

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22
Venus plays games with your heart and you may find yourself questioning recent choices you have made. Give yourself time and don't be forced before you're ready or you'll doubt what you're doing even if it is the right decision. Last minute invites provide the most romantic New Year's Eve and day. Call now and I'll reveal all.

0906 585 4364

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22
Your need to know what is going on in other peoples lives has seen you miss out on hearing what others feel about you and what is going on in your own life. Accepting impromptu invites for New Years is going to be a very large smile on your face. Give me a ring now to hear why it's worth laying all your cards on the table in love.

0906 585 4365

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22
Someone has told some tales on you and even though you may be feeling somewhat distraught and let down, you'll have to trust me when I tell you that they really have done you a favour Libra. Love takes an interesting turn as you start to see through actions and hear through words that you are truly loved. Ring now, I have plenty more to tell you.

0906 585 4366

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21
You're in the mood for mischief, which for a determined sign such as yourself means you're likely to find it. The good news is that for once you're attracted to faces who are compatible with you, rather than picking the types who can only bring chaos to your life. Ring me now to hear why the month ahead is a great time to push for promotions.

0906 585 4367

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21
Jealousy has caused an awful lot of problems for you over the last few months and this week would be a good time for you to finally put the past behind you and to work at being friends. It's the key to you finding personal happiness and a new relationship. Ring now for important news on those finances.

0906 585 4368

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19
Lies have been told and it's important that you don't believe any of them. If you want to know the answer to a question then make sure you do the asking yourself and to the person concerned, not to a third party. Good news from a younger face gives you reason to celebrate New Year in style. Ring now so I can tell you your New Year predictions.

0906 585 4369

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18
I'm pleased and proud to say that you're now approaching one of the most positive years of your life you've seen in quite some time. 2011 saw you having to learn to get on with someone who, at one point last year, you never thought you'd see again, let alone talk to. Ring me now to hear why 2012 is such a happy year for you.

0906 585 4370

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20
This New Years Eve is sure to see you feeling far more positive about the year ahead and about what life has to offer you. Don't pretend to know things you don't to a close one. You could end up having to make a very large apology for what you're soon to find out, is just Chinese whispers. Ring now for your 2012 forecast.

0906 585 4371

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Action/Thriller/Comedy. Tom Cruise, Paula Patton, Simon Pegg, Jeremy Renner, Michael Nyqvist, Samuli Edelmann, Anil Kapoor, Lea Seydoux, Tom Wilkinson, Josh Holloway. Director: Brad Bird.

Change is good. In the three previous *Mission: Impossible* films, leading man Tom Cruise has been put through his paces by different visionary filmmakers – Brian De Palma, John Woo and JJ Abrams – with a distinctive voice and aesthetic.

Brad Bird, Oscar-winning director of *The Incredibles* and *Ratatouille*, might seem an unlikely candidate to orchestrate the slam-bang thrills of this fourth high-octane caper, but he is an inspired choice.

Making his live action debut, Bird brings a playfulness and wry sense of humour to proceedings.

A telephone box in Eastern Europe requires a forceful knock

to self-destruct after the promised five seconds and a male agent, who is put through the physical ringer while his female colleague simply employs her bountiful charms on a target, demands, "Next time I get to seduce the rich guy!"

From the moment Tom Cruise's secret agent barks, "Light the fuse," cueing Lalo Schiffrin's iconic theme music over the opening credits, our pulses race and we're strapped tight in for a giddy thrill ride.

Impossible Missions Force operative Ethan Hunt (Cruise) is sprung from a Russian jail by fellow agents Jane Carter (Paula Patton) and Benji Dunn (Simon Pegg). They are ordered to break into the Kremlin to steal intelligence files that reveal the identity of a terrorist codenamed Cobalt.

The mission turns sour when madman Hendricks (Michael Nyqvist) detonates a bomb inside the iconic building to cover up the theft of Russian nuclear launch

codes. Disavowed by the US government, Ethan, Jane, Benji and top analyst William Brandt (Jeremy Renner) must operate outside of official channels to apprehend Hendricks before he can initiate nuclear Armageddon.

The next James Bond movie will have to up its game to match the miasma of ingenious gadgets, bone-crunching fight sequences and death-defying acrobatics in *Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol*.

Bird's film is a delight, careening from the jail break and the demolition of the Kremlin to a breathless chase through a sand storm and a bruising skirmish in an Indian car manufacturing plant.

What Andre Nemec and Josh Appelbaum's script lacks in plausibility – almost everything – it compensates with unabashed, all-guns-blazing fun.

The fourth film keeps Cruise in the eye of the storm, allowing the gung-ho star to perform many of his own jaw-dropping stunts.



The actor throws himself into the melee with boundless energy, scaling the dizzying heights of the world's tallest building in Dubai or zip-lining on to the roof of a moving vehicle on the streets of Moscow. It's hard to believe he

turns 50 in the summer.

Patton injects ballsy girl power and Pegg brings welcome comic relief, while Renner proves his action credentials before taking the lead in *The Bourne Legacy* next year.

Cinema

Odeon, Horsefair, Banbury: Call cinema for information. Box office: 0871 2244007.

The Theatre, 2 Spring Street, Chipping Norton: Next film will be screened on Jan 13, *We Need To Talk About Kevin*. Box office: 01608 642350.

Odeon, George Street, Oxford: Call cinema for information. Box office: 0871 2244007.

Odeon, Magdalen Street, Oxford: Call cinema for information. Box office: 0871 2244007.

Phoenix Picture House, Walton Street, Oxford: The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo, 18, Fri, New Year's Day, Tue-Thu 1.40, 5.10, 8.15pm, New Year's Eve 3.50, 7.10pm, BH Mon 1.30, 4.45, 8pm. The Lady, 15, Fri, New Year's Day, Thu 2.15pm, Fri, New Year's Day, Wed-Thu 5.20, 8.30pm, New Year's Eve 2.15, 7.40pm, BH Mon, Tue 12pm, 3pm Tue 8.30pm. Romantics Anonymous, 12A (French, subtitled) New Year's Eve 12.15pm, Wed 2.45pm. We Have A Pope, PG (Italian, subtitled) Fri, Thu 12pm. World Cinema: Mysteries Of London, 15 (Spanish, subtitled) BH Mon 6pm.

Picturehouse Docs: Tabloid, 15, Tue 6pm. Berlin Philharmonic New Year's Eve Gala Sat 5.30pm. Kids Club: Toy Story III, U, New Year's Eve activities 12.45pm, film 1.30pm (adults not accompanying a child will not be admitted; all under-8s must be accompanied by an adult). Big Scream: The Lady, 15, Wed doors 11am, film 11.30am. Box office: 0871 704 2062.

The Screen at the Square, Corn Exchange, Market Square, Witney: The cinema is presently closed. For those with advance tickets, please

contact the box office. Box office: 01865 880645.

Ultimate Picture Palace, Jeune Street, Cowley Road, Oxford: Hugo, U, Fri 6pm, New Year's Eve 4.30, New Year's Day 3pm, BH Mon 3.30pm. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Parts 1 and 2, 12A, New Year's Day double bill 5.30pm. Jack Goes Boating, 15, BH Mon 8.30pm, Tue 7pm, Wed 9.15pm, Thu 7pm. Baby Club: Jack Goes Boating, 15, Thu 12.30pm. Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy, 15, Fri 8.30pm, New Year's Eve 7pm, BH Mon 6pm, Tue 9pm, Wed 6.45pm, Thu 4.15, 9pm. Box office: 01865 245288.

Vue Cinema, Grenoble Road, Oxford: Johnny English II Reborn, PG, daily 10am. Don II (3-D) daily 11.35am, Fri-BH Mon, Wed-Thu 2.30, 5.25, 8.20pm, Fri, New Year's Day-Wed 11.30pm. The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo, 18, daily 11am, 2.20, 5.40, 8, 9pm, Fri-BH Mon, Wed 11.20pm (subtitled New Year's Day 2.20pm, Tue 9pm). The Lady, 12A, daily 7.50pm. Oru Marubhoomi Kadha (to be confirmed), Tue 4, 8pm. Mission Impossible - Ghost Protocol, 12A, daily 1.30, 4.30, 5.30, 7.30, 8.30pm, Fri, New Year's Day-Thu 10.30pm, Fri-BH Mon, Wed 11.30pm. Alvin and the Chipmunks - Chipwrecked, U, daily 9.20am, 10.40am, 11.30am, 12.50pm, 1.40, 3, 3.40, 5.50pm. Sherlock Holmes - A Game Of Shadows, 12A, daily 10.10am, 1.10, 4.10, 5.10, 7.10, 8.10pm, Fri, New Year's Day-Thu 10.10pm, Fri-BH Mon, Wed 11.10pm. Arthur Christmas, U, daily 9.30am. Puss In Boots, U, daily 11.10am, 1.20, 3.20, 5.35, 7.40pm; (3-D), daily 9.40am. New Year's Eve, 12A, daily 11.50am,

2.30, 5, 7.50, 10.40pm. Happy Feet, U, daily 10.30am, 1, 3.10pm.

The Twilight Saga - Breaking Dawn pt 1, 12A, Fri, New Year's Day-Thu 10.50pm. Box office: 08712 240240.

Cineworld, Marriotts Walk, Witney: Mission Impossible - Ghost Protocol, 12A, Fri, New Year's Day-BH Mon 11.20am, Fri, New Year's Day-Thu 2.20, 5.20, 8.20, 9.15pm, New Year's Eve 10.15am, 1.15, 4.15, 7.15pm. The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo, 18, Fri 2.10, 5.35, 8, 9pm, New Year's Eve 3.35, 7pm, New Year's Day Sun-Thu 2.10, 5.35, 8, 9pm. Sherlock Holmes - A Game Of Shadows, 12A, Fri 1.55, 2, 5, 8.40pm, New Year's Eve 1.55, 4.50, 7.45pm, Sun-Thu 1.55, 2, 6, 8.40pm. Alvin and the Chipmunks - Chipwrecked, U, Fri 11.35am, 1.55, 4.15pm, New Year's Eve 11am, 1.15, 3.30, 5.45pm, New Year's Day-BH Mon 12.15pm, 2.35, 4.50pm, Tue-Thu 2.35, 4.55pm. Puss In Boots, U, Fri 10.50am, New Year's Eve 12.30pm, New Year's Day-BH Mon 11.15am, 7.05pm, Tue-Thu 7.05pm; (3-D) Fri 3.45pm, Fri-New Year's Eve 4pm, New Year's Eve 5.15pm. New Year's Eve, 12A, Fri 6.30pm, New Year's Eve 8pm. Happy Feet 2, U, with Looney Tunes I Tawt I Taw A Puddy Tat, Fri, New Year's Day-BH Mon 11.30am, New Year's Eve 11.35am. Arthur Christmas, U, Fri 1.15, 6.10pm, New Year's Eve 2.45, 7.30pm, New Year's Day-Thu 1.35, 6.15pm; (3-D) Fri, New Year's Day-BH Mon 11.45am, New Year's Eve 1pm. For Juniors: Spy Kids - All The Time In The World, PG, New Year's Eve 10.20am; The Smurfs, U, New Year's Eve 10.35am. Box office: 0871 200 2000.



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Couple are seeking donations to boost event in memory of son

Family urge for Finnley's Day success

A COUPLE plan to celebrate what would have been their tragic baby's second birthday with a charity fun day — but they need some help.

Gemma and Luke Froude have already raised more than £20,000 in memory of their baby son Finnley.

The tiny tot was born 12 weeks premature, weighing just 1lb 4oz.

Sadly, at just 18 weeks old his heart was not strong enough to survive an infection and he died.

Last year, Mr and Mrs Froude focused on helping others to get them through

By Sam McGregor

what would have marked his first birthday. And next year they want to do the same.

The fun day takes place on Saturday, January 28, at Banbury Town Hall, Bridge Street, from 9am to 5pm. The couple are desperate for donations to make it a success.

People are urged to give items including toys, books, games, CDs, craft items, bric a brac, tombola and raffle prizes, and cakes.

All money raised from Finnley's Day will be donated to SSNAP (Support for the Sick Newborn And their Parents), a charity which supports the special care baby unit at Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital, where Finnley was cared for.

Mr Froude, of Appleby Close, Banbury, said: "Most babies go home within a day or so. Some have a few days in intensive care or special care and then go home. Some spend months in intensive care and then go home but some babies never go home.

"Anything people can do



Gemma and Luke Froude are hoping next year's fundraiser will top last year's

will help premature and sick babies, and all funds raised go to the charity as all costs have been incurred by the Froude family. Please help."

Mrs Froude added: "We need to drum up more local support for Finnley's Day.

"We have £2,000 of prize-draw prizes, and things are coming in, but we have

nowhere near as much as last year. We need good quality books, toys, baby items, craft, cakes and preserves, tombola donations, bottles to raffle.

"We also urge local businesses to get involved in the event by donating prizes."

On the day there will be face painting, balloons, stalls, games and prizes.

Email Finnleyfroude@hotmail.co.uk or call 07717 710262 if you can help.

Earlier this year the couple were presented with a certificate of merit by charity SSNAP in recognition of raising £20,840.66.

The money was used to refurbish the family room and buy vital equipment.



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White Hart, Sheep Street, Bicester: Ear Candy. Early celebrations with a popular covers duo. Everyone welcome. Free admission. 9.30pm. 01869 252789.

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GF Club, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury: Songs from Paul Lyon. 9pm. £1. 01295 252852.

Nightingale, Nightingale Place, Bicester: Pete McCray with soul, reggae and more. Everyone welcome. Free admission. 9pm. 01869 369291.

White Horse, London Road, Headington: Cody - singer and guitarist performing

covers from past 60 years. Everyone welcome. Free admission. 9pm. 01865 762447.

SATURDAY
The Regal, 300 Cowley Road, Oxford: New Year's Eve, Jungle Rave Nation, Old School Legends. 8am-4am. £15 and £22.50 adv. 01865 241261.

NEW YEAR'S DAY
New Hall, St Aldates, Oxford: Viennese New Year's Concert. Restored to its rightful place on New Year's Day, the traditional New Year concert, with Oxford Philomusica, under the direction of John Georgiadis. Musical programme to include a sequence of (mostly) familiar waltzes, marches and polkas. 3.30pm. £37 £26 £17.50 and £10. 020 8450 1060.

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Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park, Banbury:

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New Theatre, George Street, Oxford: Until Dec 31, *South Pacific*. The Lincoln

Center Theatre's production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic musical direct from London's Barbican. Starring Metropolitan Opera star Paulo Szot and Samantha Womack, with a live orchestra. 7.30pm (not Dec 31); matinees Weds and Sats plus Dec 29 2.30pm. Call regarding ticket prices. Jan 7, Katherine Jenkins. 7.30pm. Box office: 0844 847 1585 and 1588
Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford: Until Jan 15, pantomime, *Mother Goose*, written and directed by Peter Duncan. Featuring Ashleigh Gray, Zabrina Norry and Will Hawksworth. Packed with favourite panto ingredients. Tickets vary from £20.50-£12. Box office: 01865 305305.



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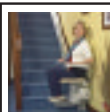
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*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech models. **Finance Deposit Allowance not available on Astra GTC. Model shown is New Astra SRi 5dr. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 2 April 2012. †Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply.

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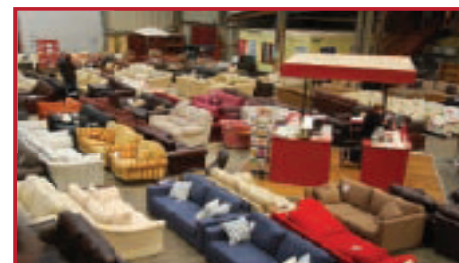
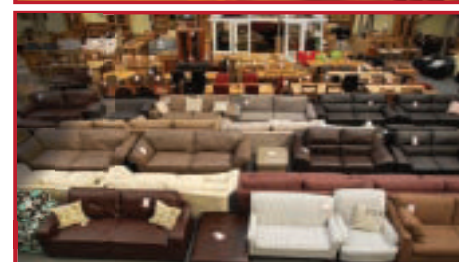
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